TOPIC 1

*PART 1*

1. ***levels of higher education and length of study in Belarus, the UK and the US;***

There are 3 levels of HE in Bel. They are not compulsory but plenty of young people want to acquire HE. 1st of them is undergraduate course. After this level you can get specialist’s diploma and bachelor’s degree. It lasts about 4 years. The next step is second level with Master’s degree diploma and master’s degree. You can improve your knowledge in selected sphere and make a research. It lasts 1 or 2 years depends on major. The 3rd level is post-graduate course. It confirmed by researcher’s diploma. After this level you get candidate of science or art degree. On this level you can protect candidate’s work and get doctor’s of sciences or art degree.

There is the same system in the UK and in the US. But in the US all levels last about 1 years longer than in UK. So bachelor’s degree lasts 3 and 4 years respectively, master’s degree 1 and 2 years and doctor’s degree is 3 and from 5 to 7 years.

1. ***university organisation in Belarus, the UK and the US;***

In Belarus there are a lot of different uni-s. After school you apply to 1 of them. They consists of faculties which have quite a lot of authority from each of them. And there are some related majors in these faculties.

There is very close system in the UK. Their uni-s are made up of colleges, each of them is dedicate to specific subject.

In the US you apply to larger university and take courses. You can choose a major in the end of the 1st y.

1. ***course of study in Belarus, the UK and the US;***

Ac. y. in Belarus and the US cons. of 2 semesters. But in Bel. ac. y. starts on the 1st of September, whereas in the US it starts in middle to late August. In Belarus we have holidays in the end of January when in the US they have holidays in December.

In the UK ac. y. cons. of trimesters and it starts in October and lasts in the July.

1. ***assignments and grades in Belarus, the UK and the US;***

Your performance in Bel. depends on your assignments which you do during the semester. But if you want to improve it you should to pass an exam.

In the UK there are a lot of lectures and occasional assignments so your entire grade based on final exam.

On the contrary in the US your mark is based on your assignments.

1. ***cost of study in Belarus, the UK and the US;***

You can pass CT and apply for cost-free basis or you can pay tuition fee depends on your results. Also there are some private uni-s where is no free study.

In the UK tuition fee is about 14 300 $ but it can be higher for international students.

And there is a differ between in-state and out-of-state uni-s in the US.

*PART 2*

1. **the mission of BSUIR and core areas of training;**

Mission of BSUIR is to train specialists, who can create high-tech products, generate innovative ideas and really well in computer science and electronics. It’s the leading IT uni in our country and one of the best among CIS countries. A lot of students from Eastern Europe, Asia and Africa come to gain education.

1. **the University framework;**

Our uni consists of 8 faculties, 32 departments and 49 majors. Also it includes the Institute of Information Technologies and R&D department

1. **the teaching stuff of BSUIR;**

Teaching stuff consists of different specialists like academicians from Belarusian academy of science and foreign academicians, professors, doctors of science, senior lectures. assistants and associate professors.

1. **subjects being studied and the University curriculum;**

Subjects depend on year of education and major. Freshmen study physics, higher mathematics, geometry, technical drawing and social sciences. Later they acquire knowledge in electronics, cybernetics etc. Also we have 4 foreign languages: french, spanish, german and english.

Curriculum includes lectures, seminars, laboratory works, and practical classes. Students pass the session in the end of each semester through pass-fail system, oral or written exam and their coursework projects.

1. **University facilities at the students’ disposal;**

BSUIR has excellent facilities for studying and research, rest and recreation. It includes computer classes, modern laboratories, multimedia means and state-of-the art libraries with reading halls. We have local network connects to all computers.

1. **BSUIR as a scientific organization;**

BSUIR today is a large scientific organization with 34 R&D labs, 8 scientific centers, and an IT business incubator. It cooperates with more than 100 science organizations and educational institutions.

1. **the role of sport and extracurricular activities in the University life.**

Sport also plays crucial role in student life. University teams often win leading position and compete at a national level. There is a plethora of different kinds like swimming-pool, volleyball, football etc. It’s possible because uni has all modern facilities to promote students in this way.

Student union in our university organize extracurricular activities like festivals, contests and other.

*PART 3*

1. **personal traits and skills needed for university success;**

Studying in uni requires some skills that you can't learn at school. You should be goal-driven and persist in pursuing goals, you should be focused and know time-management to allot enough time for each task. Also you should be punctual

1. **ways to be a better student;**

To be a good student you should know your motivation and really keen on your sphere. But here are some practical advice.   
Listen to your lecturer take down notes, participate in activities of your uni and student union. But do not forget about yourself and take care of your health.

1. **your daily routine as a student;**

To be punctual you should make a to-do list and schedule of each day. For example I get up at 7.30 every morning and arrive to my uni at 9.00. Usually pairs finish at 15.20. After that sometimes I have workouts in the swimming-pool or go home and do my homework.  
You should go to sleep not too late so I go to sleep at 11 p.m.

1. **the main characteristics of academic life and your workload;**

You should ask questions if you need it and come to tutorials. Attending of seminars and lectures is compulsory for all student. Try to meet deadlines of all subjects. The most essential part of semester is exams. Start preparation for it from the beginning of semester.

1. **the main characteristics of student social life and your extracurricular activities;**

There are a lot of extracurricular options for students. A lot of them are made by student union, and you also can become a part of it. Also there are a lot of sport teams and student clubs. And you can become a volunteer if you are interested in it. If you can write some articles, you can publish them in university newspaper.

1. **how to reach the balance between academic and social life at university**

You should to allot enough time for each life sphere. Try to mixed social life and academic life. At first you should keep up with the workload and then try yourself in extracurricular activities. You should sleep enough and spend enough time with friends and family. It is very important to do some sports to keep feet. Also you can collaborate with your groupmates to do your tasks together.